

#1427 The United States of America as the New Jerusalem/New Israel – At its founding, the land of America was looked upon by many as representing a New Jerusalem and/or a City Upon a Hill and/or a New Israel, part 10, “City Upon a Hill”: John Winthrop’s sermon in 1630

Matthew 5:14 (KJV) *YE ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD. A CITY THAT IS SET ON AN HILL cannot be hid.*

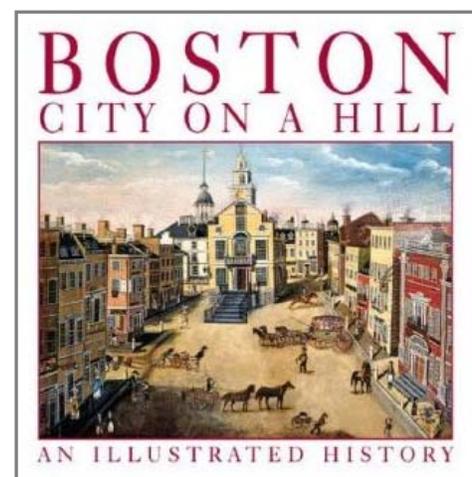
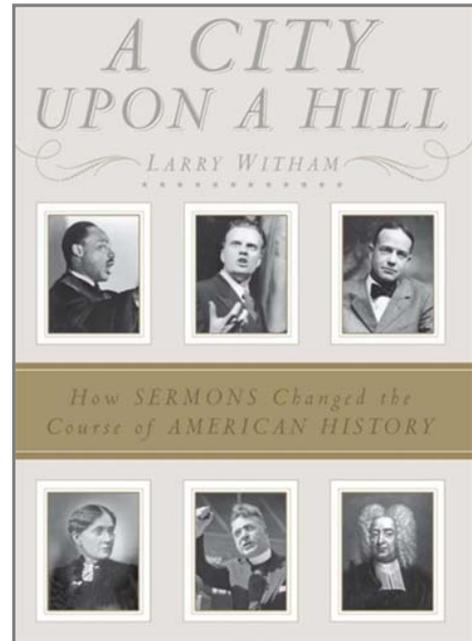
“**City Upon a Hill.**” The second famous sermon (the first being John Cotton’s “God’s Promise to His Plantation”) given in unison with the journey of the *Arbella* and the rest of the Winthrop fleet to Salem (toward the founding of Boston) was delivered by John Winthrop. It is commonly referred to as the “City Upon a Hill” sermon, and is more formally known as “A Model of Christian Charity.”

Winthrop warned the Puritan colonists who were founding the Massachusetts Bay Colony that their new community (and communities) would be a “city upon a hill,” watched by the world, referring to Matthew 5:14 in the Sermon on the Mount.

“. . . we must consider that we shall be as a City upon a Hill, (and that) the eyes of all people are upon us . . .”

John Winthrop’s phrase to describe embryonic America as a “City Upon a Hill” became a key American ideal, containing the idea that America’s purpose from its beginnings was to show the world how to exist in peaceful interdependence within the realms of a Christian government.

Boston would become the “City Upon a Hill.” By mid-July of 1630, the Winthrop fleet had reached the shores of Massachusetts. The fleet’s landing at Salem, however, became a disappointment. The settlement was short of food and not able to support more inhabitants. Many of those who migrated found their way to the mouth of the Charles River, but their health had deteriorated so badly that Thomas Dudley reported at least 200 deaths. Across the Charles River, William Blackstone, a former clergyman, was living an isolated existence as a trapper. Word came to him from his Indian friends of the dire straits of his fellow countrymen. He sent a message to John Winthrop advising him that the Trimountain hills on his side of the river were more suitable for settlement. Winthrop went to see



him and it was this meeting that really marked the foundation of the city of Boston. Within the next few weeks several small wooden houses were built by the migrants and at the suggestion of Thomas Dudley it was decided that the new settlement be called *Boston*, after its English namesake. Over the next few years many more Lincolnshire migrants arrived, including 250 from Boston, England. [Reference Unsealing #589.]

Key Understanding: Boston, Massachusetts, representing the new land of America, would be birthed as the “City Upon a Hill” in 1630, representing *Christianity* (and *Christian Theocracy*), but would morph into the “Cradle of Liberty” in 1775 as the birthplace of the American Revolution, representing *Democracy* (and *Christian Democracy*).

Boston was the “City Upon a Hill” in 1630,
representing *Christianity*

*but morphed
into*

the “Cradle of Liberty” in 1775,
representing *Democracy*

BOSTON CITY ON A HILL



AN ILLUSTRATED HISTORY



Faneuil Hall in Boston specifically represents
the city of Boston as the “Cradle of Liberty”

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